



Tuesday Feb 18, 2014

**RE: HB 05100 An Act Concerning Safety and Certification
Standards for the Spray Foam Installation Industry**

Spray Foam Inspections (SPFi) was the first in the foam industry to request residential 3rd party verifications. In every state installers need proper manufactures specific training, and more importantly, they all need oversight. SPFi has developed online verification tracking system, designed specifically for Spray Foam installations, using 3rd party independent inspectors (B.P.I. REScheck).

According to science policy research (Library of Congress Congressional Research Service, 1982, p. CRS-1), the cause for failure with urea formaldehyde foam insulation (UFFI) is identical to the causes that are currently happening today within the spray polyurethane foam industry. Continuing this path may result in SPF succumbing to the same fate as UFFI encountered circa 1980s.

Consumer Product Safety Commission reported the following Issues with UFFI insulation foam:

- Excessive formaldehyde;
- Excessive acid catalyst in the foaming agent;
- Excessive foaming agent;
- Insulation in high heat or humidity causes adverse reaction in the foam products;
- Insulation with chemicals at sub-optimal temperatures caused catastrophic failure and the insulation just decayed in the walls;
- Improper use of vapor barriers; and
- Installation in ceilings or other improper places.

Currently the chemicals used in the production of polyurethane products containing MDI/TDI/PMDI are known to be dermal and respiratory sensitizers. More than any other building product, the demand for spray foam has skyrocketed because of *green* building initiatives. SPFi believes that 3rd party verifications are needed to ensure consistency of application and adherence to OSHA regulations. The industry should have standards in areas of quality, depth, and the required fire coatings for each spray foam insulation. The end-product-configuration of spray foam installations must comply with current building codes and manufactures specific installed requirements. The present system of checks and balances does not currently protect the interests of homeowners. A true 3rd party is only possible, outside of the value chain of liability. The liability between the manufacture and the installer is currently being challenged in Connecticut.

SPFi originated during the post Hurricane Katrina New Orleans rebuilding effort that occurred while working for *Apex Foam Industries* in the 9th ward on the *Make-It-Right Foundation* project, an initiative led by Brad Pitt. SPFi is committed to SPF performance, safety, and above all else, industry excellence. www.SprayFoamInspections.com has ***SPF specific property assurance software*** for the building code to manage every single spray foam job that is being installed. SPFi can upload state permit data, thermal scans, videos, and other relevant data that can be used to track fidelity of application, installation, and more.

SPFi Software will include, but is not limited to, the following:

1. Proper licensure and registration of home improvement contractors
2. Identification of common problems existing in the green building industry regarding the SPF installations.
3. Surveys and estimates for contractors and homeowners.
4. Recommendations for improvements using the current systems already in use in the state.
5. Performance-based results of buildings that have a definitive result on how the homes are currently being built.
6. Estimates for certified manufacturer SPF resellers.
7. Reports weather conditions for the day(s) of the installation

The goal of SPFi is to help government regulate the SPF industry as an online system of checks and balances. This software will create many job opportunities for locals and thus increase the revenues for the state. The SPFi Property Assurance Program allows states and localities to prove that the spray foam end-product-configuration has been installed correctly and to the manufacturer standards.

www.SprayFoamInspections.com is here to help with the online infrastructure needed in each state to implement the required residential foam verifications. Consumers need protection through insurance mandates for errors and omissions insurance to cover their workmanship. This is functional in the Canadian foam industry today.

Giving all control to one training entity could be a monopoly. One size does not fit all.



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